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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 00654 241114Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 W
----------241123Z 100786 /10
R 240634Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4819

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0654

SY CHANNEL

ALSO PASS AF/E

FOL SENT ACTION NAIROBI APR 20 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

SY CHANNEL

NAIROBI FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJ: BREAK-IN - AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

REFS: A) NAIROBI 4773; B) NAIROBI 4798

1. POLICE TOOK PHOTOS AND DUSTED FOR PRINTS, THEN ROOMS WERE PUT BACK IN ORDER. THE BAR LOCK WAS KEPT IN A CLOSET WITH LITTLE CLEARANCE FOR THE DOOR SO A FLAT, FOUR MM PIECE OF METAL WAS USED IN LIEU OF THE STANDARD STEEL TUBE. METAL WAS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO SPRING OUT OF PLACE. BARLOCK HAS BEEN SECURED WITH A CHAIN AND PADLOCK.

2. A FOOTPRINT WAS FOUND ON EACH SIDE OF THE WALL WHERE THE MAN LEFT THE COMPOUND, BUT A LIGHT RAIN MADE THE PRINTS INDISTINCT.
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WE ARE SURE OF WHERE HE CLIMBED THE WALL BECAUSE OF BLOOD STAINS.

3. AT PRESENT WE CAN RECONSTRUCT AS FOLLOWS: ONE NIGHT GUARD COMES ON DUTY AT 1800, A SECOND GUARD ARRIVES AT 2000. BOTH STAY UNTIL 0600 WHEN DAY GUARD ARRIVES. WHEN THE SECOND GUARD ARRIVED SUNDAY EVENING HE NOTICED TWO GLASS LOUVERS REMOVED FROM A LIVING ROOM WINDOW. THE GUARD DOES NOT REMEMBER IF THE SCREEN WAS TORN, BUT PRE-

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SUMABLY IT WAS. HE ASSUMED REPAIRS WERE BEING MADE BY GSO (ON SATURD
AY
AND SUNDAY GSO'S ONLY ACTIVITY AT THE RESIDENCE WAS REPAIRING
THE AWNING OVER THE BACK PORCH AND REPLACING BURNED OUT SECURITY
LIGHTS). WHEN NOT MAKING HIS ROUNDS, THE GUARD SAT BY THE WINDOW.
AT ABOUT 2230 THE GUARD
HEARD A NOISE IN THE HOUSE BUT HE ASSUMED
THE WIND HAD BLOWN CLOSED A DOOR. AN HOUR LATER HE HAPPENED TO
LOOK INSIDE AGAIN AND SAW A MAN IN THE LIVING ROOM. THE INTRUDER
PUT HIS HAND TO HIS MOUTH INDICATING THAT THE GUARD SHOULD KEEP
QUIET. THE GUARD GRABBED HIS CLUB AND CALLED HIS ASSISTANT.
AT THAT THE INTRUDER HURLED THE AMBASSADOR'S PORTABLE CASSETTE
RECORDER THROUGH THE LOUVERED WINDOW AND LEAPED THROUGH FEET
FIRST. THE GUARD HIT HIM A GLANCING BLOW ON THE HEAD AND BROKE
MORE LOUVERS WITH HIS FOLLOW-THROUGH. THE GUARD TELEPHONED THE
MSG WATCHSTANDER WHO IN TURN CALLED DUTY OFFICER CLAY ROSS AND
MEARS.

4. MEARS AND ROSS WENT THROUGH THE HOUSE AND FOUND DRAWERS AND
CABINETS OPEN BUT EVERYTHING WAS GENERALLY NEAT. ONE BEDSPREAD
IN THE GUEST BEDROOM WAS TURNED DOWN AND A CASSETTE WERE
ON THE PIANO. A BOX OF NYLON ROPE AND A STACK OF FIVE -BY-SEVEN
NOTE CARDS WERE ON THE FLOOR OF THE STUDY. (NOTES ARE PROBABLY
MANUSCRIPT MENTIONED REF B). A RING OF HOUSEHOLD KEYS,
PRESUMABLY FROM THE BARLOCK, WAS FOUND AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE
MASTER BEDROOM BUT DOOR WAS SECURE. SERVANTS DID NOT RECOGNIZE
THE KEYS. POLICE RESPONDED AND FOUND FOOTPRINTS NEAR THE WALL
AND A PAIR OF SANDALS IN THE GARDEN.

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5. MONDAY MORNING MEARS MET CID LT.
WHO DUSTED THE CASSETTE PLAYER, THE AREA WHERE IT HAD BEEN, AND
ATTACHE CASE, AND THE DESK DRAWERS. NO PRINTS WERE FOUND. HE
TOOK A BLOOD STAINED PIECE OF GLASS FROM THE BROKEN WINDOW. HE
REQUESTED AND RECEIVED A BOOK OF EMBASSY MATCHES. HE HAD FOUND
FOUR OTHER BOOKS AND WANTED TO COMPARE THE PRINTED SEAL. HE
DECLINED TO SAY WHERE HE FOUND THEM. CID ASKED TO TAKE THE
CASSETTE RECORDER BUT MEARS DECLINED. (THE RECORDER WAS BLOOD
STAINED AND DENTED.)

6. THE AMBASSADOR'S SECRETARY LEFT ON APRIL 15, SHE HAD BEEN
PERIODICALLY CHECKING THE HOUSE DURING THE AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE.
AFTER SHE LEFT THE AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER BEGAN DOING THIS. ON
APRIL 16 A CAUCASIAN WOMAN IN A VERY SHORT SKIRT WALKED ONTO THE
AMBASSADOR'S PARKING AREA AND SAT DOWN ON A LOW RETAINING WALL
FACING THE SEA. SHE ARRIVED ABOUT 1815 AND STAYED ABOUNT AN
HOUR. THE GUARD, AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER AND COOK THOUGHT IT ODD
THAT A EUROPEAN WOMAN WOULD BE IN THE AREA AFTER DARK. ALL
THREE ADMIT TO GOING OUT TO OBSERVE. BECAUSE OF

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WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THICK ARMS AND LEGS, THE AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER BELIEVES SHE WAS A RUSSIAN CASING THE RESIDENCE. AT THE TIME OF THE ROBBERY, THE SECURITY LIGHT ON THE WALL OF THE HOUSE WAS OFF. IT HAD BEEN BURNED OUT BUT REPAIRED THAT DAY. APPARENTLY THE GUARD ASSUMED IT WAS STILL BURNED OUT. THE AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER HAD NOT CHECKED THE DOOR WHICH WAS FOUND OPEN. ALL OR NONE OF THE ABOVE MAY BE RELATED.

7. WILL QUESTION LOCAL GUARDS FURTHER, SOME THINGS ARE DISTURBING. MANY VALUABLE, SELLABLE ITEMS WERE NOT TOUCHED; I.E., SILVER, A TRANSOCEANIC RADIO, AND OTHER STEREO EQUIPMENT. IF THE MAN ENTERED BY THE WINDOW, HE WAS IN THE HOUSE FOR OVER THREE HOURS.

8. POST HAS ADDED AN ADDITIONAL GUARD TO WORK 1800 TO 0600. THIS MEANS TWO FROM 1800 TO 2000 AND THREE FROM 2000 TO 0600. MSG COMING OFF A MIDNIGHT WILL CHECK THE HOUSE, ADMIN OFFICER WILL CHECK AT DIFFERENT HOURS UNTIL AMBASSADOR RETURNS.
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9. RE RSO VISIT, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE RSO PRESENCE WOULD BE VALUABLE WHILE DETAILS FRESH IN EVERYONE'S MIND AND ROVING ADMIN OFFICER MEARS, WHO HAS BEEN PERSON MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED, IS STILL HERE. ALSO, WE HOPE TO HAVE TIMELY ADVICE FROM RSO ON WAYS TO IMPROVE SECURITY AND REDUCE CHANCES OF RECURRENCE.
JACOBS

UNQUOTE
LOUGHRAN

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